

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A valved connector apparatus is described having an integral opening and closing system operated by axial movement of the valve. The body of the valved connector apparatus is in a Y-shaped configuration with a main channel and a lateral channel branching off of the main channel. A normally closed, passive hemostasis valve is housed in a valve body that is slidably connected to the proximal end of the main channel. The hemostasis valve is opened by sliding the valve body distally with respect to the Y-shaped connector body so that a cylindrical extension extending from the proximal end of the Y-shaped connector body penetrates a central opening in the hemostasis valve, creating an open passage for insertion of guidewires, catheters or other instruments. The valved connector apparatus allows safe introduction of extremely flexible or fragile guidewires, catheters or other instruments.